

I support retaining all the FCC rules in force regarding media ownership. Even broader ownership of media outlets by major companies makes it less likely that a variety of voices and opinions will get an audience. With limits on local ownership, there is practical motivation for various newsgathering operations to send reporters and photographers to the cover the same issues. If one owner can monopolize the media, then all outlets will share the same information written and photographed by the same staffers. That eliminates the checks and balances and makes it less likely that erroneous and misleading reports will be expanded or corrected.

The Internet has broadened the definition of publishing, but it isn't yet extensive enough to overshadowed major traditional media. Until that happens -- and it may never -- there is a place for regulations that keep local media under various ownership.